



## California State Fire Marshal **CODE INTERPRETATION**

Date Issued	12-05-02	Interpretation #	02-051
Topic	Reception Rooms in Exit Corridor		
Code Section(s)	§1004.3.4.4, Exception #1, California Building Code (1998 ed)		
Requested by	Kenneth Oh Rolf Jensen and Associates, Inc. 7676 Hazard Center Drive, 5 <sup>th</sup> Floor San Diego, CA 92108-4506		

***1. Does a reception room within a fire-rated corridor that has ten chairs and a reception desk meet the intent of Section 1004.3.4.4, Exception 1?***

No. Based on the description you provided, this intervening room meets the definition of a waiting area that is not exempted in Section 1004.3.4.4, Exception 1.

***2. How is the definition of “lobby” different from a “waiting room”?***

Lobby areas are at the entrance to a building in which persons must pass. They do not contain seating areas as does a waiting room. Waiting rooms have a higher fire load (tables, chairs, magazines, etc.) than a lobby.